

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 MEXICO 00534 150132Z

64

ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 DOTE-00 /018 W

----- 102595

P 150025Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2381

UNCLAS MEXICO 0534

FOR COMMERCE-BIC/OIM, PORTER CLARY

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELTN, EFIN, MX

SUBJECT: GOM TECHNICAL MISSION TO STUDY SUBURBAN TRAIN SYSTEMS

REF: A-PARSONS-CLARY TELCON (JANUARY 14, 1976), B-MEXICO A-125
(APRIL 8, 1975).

1. EMBASSY TCO WAS INFORMED BY OFFICIALS OF FERROCARRILES NACIONALES DE MEXICO (NDEM) THAT THEY ARE PLANNING TO SEND A THREE OR FOUR PERSON TECHNICAL MISSION TO STUDY THE SUBURBAN TRAIN SYSTEMS OF THE UNITED STATES, FRANCE, UNITED KINGDOM, GERMANY AND JAPAN. THE MISSION WOULD BE HEADED BY ING. EDUARDO HARFUCH, CHIEF OF NDEM'S TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT. TECHNICAL STUDY MISSION IS VIEWED AS ESSENTIAL STEP TOWARD IMPLEMENTATION OF GOM MAJOR PROJECT (UP TO ONE BILLION DOLLARS IN ITS ENTIRETY) TO CONSTRUCT A SUB-URBAN TRAIN SYSTEM FOR MEXICO CITY, AS REPORTED REPAIR. CONCLUSIONS REACHED BY STUDY MISSION COULD SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS OF PROJECT, WHICH IN TURN WOULD AFFECT CHANCES OF U.S. SUPPLIERS IN WINNING CONTRACTS. IN CONVERSATION YESTERDAY BETWEEN TCO AND NDEM GENERAL MANAGER LUIS GOMEZ Z., HE CONFIRMED THAT CHANCES OF PROJECT BECOMING A REALITY UNDER NEW GOM PRESIDENT (TO TAKE OFFICE IN DECEMBER 1976) HAVE SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVED, AND THAT NDEM WAS MOST INTERESTED AT THIS POINT IN UNITED STATES OR JAPAN AS SUPPLIERS.

2. TECHNICAL MISSION INTERESTED IN SPEAKING WITH TECHNICAL
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 MEXICO 00534 150132Z

MANAGERS OF U.S. SUBURBAN TRAIN SYSTEMS AND VIEWING

OPERATION. SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED WERE : (1) BART, SAN FRANCISCO; (2) BURLINGTON AND NORTHERN SUBURBAN SERVICE, CHICAGO; (3) LONG ISLAND RR, TURBOTRAIN, AND METROLINER, NEW YORK; AND (4) METRO, WASHINGTON, D.C. MISSION IS WILLING TO VIEW OTHER SYSTEMS THAT USG FEELS MERITS THEIR ATTENTION. THEY ALSO INTERESTED IN TALKING WITH POTENTIAL U.S. SUPPLIERS. ROHR INDUSTRIES AND GENERAL ELECTRIC WERE SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED.

3. NDEM WILLING TO LEAVE SCHEDULING OF TRIP IN HANDS USG; THEREFORE EMBASSY REQUESTS COMMERCE ASSISTANCE IN ARRANGING SCHEDULE. MISSION DESIRES INITIATE U.S. PORTION OF TRIP IN SAN FRANCISCO AND WORK WAY EAST, SPENDING WEEK OF FEBRUARY 1-8 IN U.S. SOME SCHEDULE FLEXIBILITY EXISTS, BUT INASMUCH AS OTHER EMBASSIES HAVE ALSO BEEN CONTACTED, SUGGESTIONS FOR CHANGES AND/OR EXTENSION SHOULD BE MADE ASAP.

4. EMBASSY HAS ALREADY ALERTED LOCAL REP GENERAL ELECTRIC TO TRIP AS HE HAS BEEN WORKING MOST CLOSELY WITH NDEM ON THIS PROJECT. GE MAY CONTACT COMMERCE TO PROPOSE VISIT TO THEIR PLANT IN EIRE, PENNSYLVANIA.

5. GIVEN THE VERY LARGE SIZE OF POTENTIAL PURCHASES IN U.S. OF THIS MAJOR PROJECT, EMBASSY STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT ITS TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER EDMUND PARSONS ACCOMPANY GROUP AS ESCORT/INTERPRETER FOR U.S. PORTION TRIP, AND THAT COMMERCE PROVIDE FINANCING FOR HIS TRAVEL AND PER DIEM EXPENSES. THIS WILL PROVIDE ADDED ADVANTAGE OF FACILITATING HIS FOLLOW-UP UPON MISSION'S RETURN TO MEXICO CITY, AND WILL HELP STENGTHEN RAILROAD SEMINAR, U.S. TRADE CENTER MEXICO CITY, JUNE 1-3, 1976.

6. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP OF TENTATIVE TRAVEL OUTLINE AND FINANCIAL DATA FOR PARSONS PARTICIPATION IF APPROVED. EMBASSY WILL THEN IMMEDIATELY SECURE NDEM COMMENTS ON TRAVEL PLAN.

7. IN EMBASSY VIEW THIS REPRESENTS SPLENDID OPPORTUNITY TO SECURE CONTRACT OF GREAT PROPORTION, WHICH ALSO OFFERS UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 MEXICO 00534 150132Z

AS YET UNKNOWN BUT UNDOUBTEDLY LARGE POTENTIAL FOLLOW-UP SALES. ONE SIGNIFICANT EXAMPLE IN THIS FIELD IS THE FRENCH-BUILT METRO SYSTEM FOR MEXICO CITY, WHICH CONTINUES TO PROVIDE FRANCE WITH LARGE SALES OF SPARE PARTS AND NEW EQUIPMENT, AND PROSPECTS OF EVEN MORE WHEN PLANNED EXPANSION MATERIALIZES. THEREFORE IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT THE QUALITY OF THE PROGRAM THAT IS ARRANGED FOR THIS TECHNICAL MISSION WILL PLAY A LARGE AND PERHAPS DETER-

MINING ROLE IN SUCCESS OF U.S. IN OBTAINING THIS PROJECT.

JOVA

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RAILROADS, VISITS, SURVEYS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MEXICO00534
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760014-0662
From: MEXICO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760154/aaaabway.tel
Line Count: 117
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION COME
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: mendozsm
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 JUL 2004 by castelsl>; APPROVED <24 AUG 2004 by mendozsm>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GOM TECHNICAL MISSION TO STUDY SUBURBAN TRAIN SYSTEMS
TAGS: ELTN, EFIN, MX, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006